



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PHOENIX MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO DEFRAUDING SOCIAL SECURITY PROGRAMS

PHOENIX, ARIZONA -- The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona, and the Office of the Inspector General/Social Security Administration, announced today that on February 1, 2002, **TYRONE LORENZA TOLLIVER** entered a plea of guilty to a one-count Criminal Indictment for defrauding Social Security programs of \$6,034.00. The Criminal Indictment, resulting from an investigation conducted by Special Agents from the Phoenix office of the Social Security Administration/Office of Inspector General, charged Theft of Government Property.

TOLLIVER, whose name was on a joint account with his mother, continued to receive and spend for his own personal use Social Security disability benefits deposited into his deceased mother's account. **TOLLIVER** admitted to concealing his mother's death from the Social Security Administration and using her ATM card to withdraw the funds for his own personal use. Sentencing before United States District Judge Stephen M. McNamee is scheduled for April 15, 2002. **TOLLIVER** faces a maximum penalty of imprisonment for not more than ten years or a fine of \$250,000.00, or both.

The investigation that led to the indictment and guilty plea was conducted by Agents from the Phoenix office of the Social Security Administration/Office of Inspector General, and is the result of a joint effort between

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the Department of Justice, United States Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona, and the Social Security Administration/Office of the Inspector General, to identify and prosecute fraud against Social Security benefit programs.

This case was handled by John K. Webb, Special Assistant United States Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix, Arizona.

CASE NUMBER: CR-01-852 PHX-SMM

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